

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of controlling an information processing apparatus ~~In a network including an information device connected to a plurality of control devices over a network via communication means having a prescribed communication format, a said method for controlling a plurality of portions in the information device, comprising:~~

~~providing selecting means to at least one of the plurality of control devices from the information device;~~

selecting, at a given one of the plurality of control devices, a specific one of the a plurality of portions to be of the information processing apparatus ~~controlled using the selecting means;~~

transmitting, from the given one of the plurality of control devices to the information processing apparatus, identification information corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of portions and identification information corresponding to the given one of the plurality of control devices ~~to the information device;~~

storing preserving the identification information corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of portions and the identification information corresponding to the given one of the plurality of control devices as in a control correspondence table, of the information processing apparatus wherein such that the identification information corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of portions and is associated with the identification information corresponding to the given one of the plurality of control devices ~~with each other;~~

repeating said selecting step, said transmitting step and said preserving storing step each time to associate the identification information corresponding to a further one of the plurality of control devices ~~selects a with the identification~~

information corresponding to a further one of the plurality of portions to be controlled;

transmitting ~~issuing~~ a control request from another the given one of the plurality of control devices or from the further one of the plurality of control devices to the information processing apparatus ~~control another of the portions to be controlled~~, wherein the control request ~~includes~~ the identification information corresponding to the another transmitting control device; and ~~controlling the another portion to be controlled by~~

referring to the control correspondence table to obtain the identification information corresponding to the portion of the information processing apparatus that is associated with the identification information corresponding to the transmitting control device; and

controlling the associated portion of the information processing apparatus based on the control request.

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the given one of the plurality of control devices and the further one of the plurality of control devices each transmit to the information device ~~is connected to the plurality of control devices via processing apparatus through an IEEE1394 digital interface.~~

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting step includes ~~providing~~ sending a first pass-through command defined in an AV/C panel subunit model and command set from to the information device to processing apparatus from the one given one of the plurality of control devices or from the further one of the plurality of control devices, ~~and said controlling step of controlling the one portion to be controlled includes controlling using the~~ sending a second pass-through command to the information processing apparatus from the given one of the plurality of

control devices or from the further one of the plurality of control devices, the first and second pass-through commands being respectively chosen from defined in the an AV/C pPanel sSubunit mModel and the eCommand sSet.

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the associated portion of the information device-processing apparatus is operable to reproduces software information recorded in-on a digital versatile disc.

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the given one of the plurality of control devices and the further one of the plurality of control devices each transmit to the information device is connected to the plurality of control devices via an interface based on processing apparatus through a wireless communication interface.

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the-wireless communication uses-is carried out using the Bluetooth communication standardmethod.

7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the-wireless communication uses-an-is carried out over infra-red wavelengthsray-method.

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the associated portion of the information device-processing apparatus is operable to reproduces audio visual information recorded in-on a hard disc.

9. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein each-at least one of the plurality of-given control devices and the further control device is a digital television receiver-capable of receiving digital broadcasts.

10. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus connectable to a plurality of control devices via communication means having a prescribed communication format to form-over a network, said information processing apparatus comprising:

~~a plurality of portions to be controlled, each a specific one of said plurality of portions being controllable selected by any a given one of the plurality of control devices;~~

~~a transmitter operable to provide selection means to each one of the plurality of control devices, for each control device, the selection means being operable to select one of said plurality of portions to be controlled by the control device;~~

a receiver operable to receive identification information corresponding to said selected one of said plurality of portions and identification information corresponding to the given one of the plurality of control devices ~~having selected said selected portion;~~

a storage preserving unit operable to preserve said store the identification information corresponding to said selected one of said plurality of portions and said the identification information as corresponding to the given one of the plurality of control devices in a control correspondence table, ~~said information corresponding to such that the identification information corresponding to said selected one of said plurality of portions and said is associated identification information corresponding with the identification information corresponding to the given one of the plurality of control devices each other;~~

said receiver being further operable to receive identification information corresponding to a further one of said plurality of portions and identification information corresponding to a further one of the plurality of control devices;

said storage unit being further operable to store the identification information corresponding to said further one of said plurality of portions and the identification information corresponding to the further one of the plurality of control devices in the control correspondence table such that the

identification information corresponding to said further one of said plurality of portions is associated with the identification information corresponding to the further one of the plurality of control devices;

said receiver being further operable to receive a control request transmitted from the given one of the plurality of control devices or from the further one of the plurality of control devices, the control request including the identification information corresponding to the transmitting control device; and

a controller operable to refer to the control correspondence table to obtain the identification information corresponding to said portion of said information processing apparatus associated with the identification information corresponding to the transmitting control device, and to control another of the associated portions of said information processing apparatus based on the control request to be controlled upon issuance of a control request from another of the plurality of control devices referring to said control correspondence table to determine which control device corresponds to the identification information of the another control device.

11. (currently amended) An information control system, comprising:

an information device processing apparatus having a plurality of portions to be controlled; and

a plurality of control devices, each said control device being capable of controlling each of said plurality of portions in said information device and having selection means for

a given one of said plurality of control devices and a further one of said plurality of control devices each including:

a selector operable to selecting a specific one of
said plurality of portions, ~~to be controlled and control request~~
~~means for issuing a request to control the selected portion,~~
~~said information device and said plurality of control devices~~
~~being connected via communication means having a prescribed~~
~~communication format to form a network,~~ and

a transmitter operable to provide the selection means
to each transmit to said information processing apparatus
identification information corresponding to said selected one of
said plurality of portions and identification information
corresponding to that control devices;

said information processing apparatus including:

a receiver operable to receive the identification
information corresponding to said given one of said plurality of
control devices ~~said selected portion and the identification~~
~~information corresponding to its selected one of the said~~
~~plurality of portions, control devices having selected said~~
~~selected portion,~~ and

a storage preserving unit operable to preserve store
the identification information corresponding to said given one
of said plurality of control devices ~~said selected portion to be~~
~~controlled and the identification information corresponding to~~
~~the its selected one control device as of said plurality of~~
portions in a control correspondence table, wherein such that
the identification information corresponding to said given one
of said plurality of control devices is associated with and the
identification information corresponding to its selected one of
said plurality of portions, with each other

said receiver being further operable to receive the
identification information corresponding to said further one of
said plurality of control devices and the identification
information corresponding to its selected one of said plurality
of portions,

said storage unit being further operable to store the identification information corresponding to said further one of said plurality of control devices and the identification information corresponding to its selected one of said plurality of portions in the control correspondence table such that the identification information corresponding to said further one of said plurality of control devices is associated with the identification information corresponding to its selected one of said plurality of portions; and

said transmitter of said given one of said plurality of control devices and said transmitter of said further one of said plurality of control devices each being further operable to transmit a control request from that control device to the information processing apparatus, the control request including the identification information corresponding to that control device;

said receiver of said information processing apparatus being further operable to receive a transmitted control request;

said information processing apparatus further including:

a controller ~~for~~ operable to refer to the control correspondence table to obtain the identification information included in the received control request to obtain the identification information corresponding to the associated portion of said information processing apparatus, and to controlling each of said the associated selected portions of said information processing apparatus based on the received control request by referring to the control correspondence table to determine which control device corresponds to the identification information.

12. (new) The method according to claim 1, further comprising transmitting the control correspondence table

from the information processing apparatus to at least another information processing apparatus over the network.

13. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said receiver of said information processing apparatus is further operable to receive a transmission from the given one of the plurality of control devices or from the further one of the plurality of control devices through an IEEE1394 digital interface.

14. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said receiver of said information processing apparatus is further operable to receive a pass-through command from the given one of the plurality of control devices or from the further one of the plurality of control devices, the pass-through command being chosen from an AV/C Panel Subunit Model and Command Set.

15. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said associated portion of said information processing apparatus is operable to reproduce software information recorded on a digital versatile disc.

16. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said receiver of said information processing apparatus is further operable to receive a transmission from the given one of the plurality of control devices or from the further one of the plurality of control devices through a wireless communication interface.

17. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said associated portion of said information processing apparatus is operable to reproduce audio visual information recorded on a hard disc.

18. (new) The information processing apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising a transmitter operable to transmit the control correspondence table from said

information processing apparatus to at least another information processing apparatus over the network.

19. (new) The information control system according to claim 11, wherein said information processing apparatus includes a transmitter operable to transmit the control correspondence table from said information processing apparatus to at least another information processing apparatus over the network.